39 The Gopis Lament When Akrura Takes Krsna Away #2

from the Krsna Book, Chapter 39 by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

1st Gopi: O Providence, you are very cruel! In the beginning, we appreciated your workmanship in giving us these eyes to see the beautiful face of Krsna, but now, just like a foolish creature, You are trying to take out our eyes (by crying) so we may not see Krsna here again.

Krsna, the son of Maharaja Nanda, is also very cruel! He must always have new friends; He does not like to keep friendship for a long time with anyone!

We gopis of Vrndavana, having left our homes, friends and relatives, have become
Krsna's maidservants, but He is neglecting us and going away! He does not even look upon us, although we are completely surrendered to Him!

2nd Gopi: Now all the girls of Mathura will have the opportunity to serve Krsna’s lotus feet. They are expecting Krsna's arrival, and they will enjoy His sweet smiling face and will drink its honey. Although we know that Krsna is very steady and determined, we are threatened that a soon as He sees the beautiful faces of the young girls in Mathura, He will forget Himself. We fear he will become controlled by them and forget us, for we are simple village girls. He will no longer be kind to us. We therefore do not expect Krsna to return to Vrndavana. He will not be able to leave the company of the girls in Mathura.

Narrator: The gopis began to imagine the great functions in the city of Mathura. Krsna would pass through the streets of Mathura and the ladies and young girls of the city would see Him from the balconies of their respective homes.

3rd Gopi: The most astonishing fact is that Krsna, the son of Nanda Maharaja, without consideration, has already seated Himself on the chariot!! From this, it appears that Krsna is not very intelligent. Yet, He may be very intelligent - but He is not very civilized!

Not only Krsna, but all the cowherd men are so callous that they are already yoking the bulls and calves for the journey to Mathura! The elderly persons in Vrndavana are also merciless; they do not take our plight into consideration and stop Krsna's journey to Mathura! Even the demigods are very unkind to us; They are not impeding His going to Mathura!

4th Gopi: Despite our elderly parents and guardians, we shall personally stop Krsna from going to Mathura! Let us directly approach Krsna and stop

Him from going. We have no alternative than to take this direct action. Everyone has gone against us to take away Krsna from our sight.

3rd Gopi: Let us go right up to Krsna and pull at His clothes and hands and insist that He get down from the chariot and stay here with us! We will tell Him, "Don't bring upon Yourself the sinful reaction for murdering so many women."

2nd Gopi: But, if we do that, our relatives and the village elders will discover our secret love for Krsna and abandon us!

1st Gopi: But, what can they so about it?

2nd Gopi: Yes, our lives are already wretched now that Krsna is leaving! We have nothing to lose. Without Him, we cannot live for a moment.

3rd Gopi: That's right. We will remain in the Vrndavana forest just like presiding goddesses, and then we can fulfill our true desire - to stay with Krsna in the forest!

4th Gopi: Yes, and even if the elders and our relatives punish us by beating us or locking us up, we can still live happily with the knowledge that Krsna is residing our village. Some of our girlfriends will cleverly find a way to bring us the remnants of Krsna's food, and then we can remain alive! But, if Krsna is not prevented from leaving, we will certainly die!!

5th Gopi: We have passed a very long night - which seemed only a moment - engaged in the rasa dance with Krsna. We were looking at His sweet smile, and were embracing and talking. Now, how shall we live for even a moment if He goes away from us?

At the end of the day, in the evening, along with His elder brother, Balarama, Krsna would return home with His friends. His face would be smeared with the dust raised by the hooves of cows, and He would smile and play on His flute and look upon us so kindly. How shall we be able to forget Him? How shall we be able to forget Krsna who is our life and soul? He has already taken away our hearts in so many ways throughout our days and nights, and if He goes away, there is no possibility of our continuing to live.
(The gopis begin to cry.)

1st Gopi: O dear Damodar!

2nd Gopi: Dear Madhava!

3rd Gopi: O Govinda!

(Fade to black. Bhajans)